

University Community District Plan

According the Austin city charter Article II, Section 3, the Austin Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is tasked with creating ten single member city council districts that shall have reasonably equal population, comply with the Voting Rights Act, protect communities of interest and maintain the boundaries of existing election precincts.

I present a map of a district based in the Central Austin neighborhoods of North Campus, West Campus, Campus, Downtown and Riverside that satisfies all of these criteria. A link to a map of the district can be found here.

<https://www.google.com/maps/ms?msid=215009893674120603466.0004e44031ed0d5a80d65&msa=0>

This district consists entirely of the whole voting precincts 152, 200, 202, 206, 208, 274, 275, 277, 311, 313, 325, 329, 428, 429, 432, 438, 439.

According to the 2010 US Census, the district contains approximately 75,234 people, reasonably close to the ideal population of a district 79,039.

This districts contains mostly of university and college students, faculty, staff, employees and other members of the University community. All told, these diverse communities form a strong community of interest and shall be kept united in one district.

The University community has different needs than many other communities in the City of Austin including rapidly increasing rental housing costs, one of the highest property crime rates in the state of Texas, and most unfortunately, one of the highest rates of sexual assault in the state. These issues affect our entire community, students and non students alike.

If this map were implemented, the University community would be able to elect a candidate of choice to the city council. This councilmember would be responsive to the diverse needs of the entire University community.

With well over 100,000 students, staff, faculty and employees at Austin colleges and Universities within the city limits, the University community is large enough to necessitate at least one of Austin's ten city council districts.

This map shows that is possible to create a compact district with population reasonably close to the ideal district population that keeps one of Austin's most cohesive communities of interest together in one city council district.

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